Report on Technology Pilot Grants
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All grants and legislative reports are posted at:
http://www.sde.idaho.gov/site/tech_services/grants_contracts.htm

Lessons Learned:

1) Instructional technology is virtually useless without connectivity
2) Districts and schools know the tools they want
3) Leadership is paramount in success
4) Technology integration coaches or specialist have been so valuable
5) Technology individualizes education, and promotes a student-centered learning environment
6) Next Generation Learning Environments have several technologies available to students
7) Use a technology integration model, such as the SAMR
8) Realize that the technology integration paradigm shift takes several years
9) Schools can maximize device potential with Learning Management Systems (LMS)
10) It is cumbersome to find digital textbooks/resources that match all platforms (interoperability)
11) Teachers and students need to understand digital citizenship, and digital footprint
12) There can be an initial slight decrease in student achievement, but grows exponentially over time. This is oftentimes hard to measure.
13) There is an overwhelming, and dramatic, increase in student engagement and participation
14) Smarter Balanced testing can be completed in days, not weeks
15) Students are able to be more creative, engage in deeper concepts, and can foster critical thinking
16) Cloud based application use (Google Docs) is more and more prevalent...and effective.
17) Learning curves differ between students and teachers (students are digital natives)
18) Fiscal savings exist by moving to a digital environment
19) Teaching is now *facilitated learning*
20) Managed services can be advantageous, but the right vendor for the right district is needed
21) Remote filtering is successful
22) Durable devices and tablet covers are essential
23) Mechanical keyboards for tablets should be made available to student use
24) Capabilities for projection or screen sharing is the key to instructing in a collaborative environment
25) Predominantly districts are implementing iPads and Chromebooks

Emerging Guidelines:

1) Parent orientation by school principal is essential
2) Need to establish student discipline procedures and prepare teachers to implement them
3) Professional development in situational awareness and classroom management practices needs to be established
4) Districts can create insurance programs where staff and students purchase insurance to cover loss, damage, and build a reserve for future replacements.
5) Understanding that projects need to have a focused and scaled deployment plan
6) Recurring teacher collaboration time (weekly or monthly) is essential

7) Districts should implement digital citizenship course/curriculum/trainings
8) Districts need to develop policies that ensure appropriate care of devices
9) Investigate "student as support" model for Tier 1 support and training
10) The school level (teachers and students) needs to formulate what a Next Generation Learning Environment *does*.

Recommendations:

#1: An essential component of successful technology integration is an Integration Specialist/Integration Coach. These personnel provide the sustainable job embedded PD that is critical for teachers.

#2: There is a high cost of wireless connectivity, and state can look to provide funds for all schools. State should look to take advantage of the modernization of E-rate from the FCC.

#3: Provide funding for districts to enter into their own managed service contracts, with devices of their choosing. State can provide statewide contracts on a handful of devices through Department of Purchasing.